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**INTRODUCTION**

Our world is a diverse arena of life and its different manifestations, from microorganisms to the gigantic mammals.

This diversity is a delicate fabric of the ecosystem, ensuring survival of species in their niches, thriving with health and growth.

Unfortunately, our nature’s diversity is being compromised as of recent research results, and this means our planet is facing threat in form of extinction of species, imbalanced ecosystems and loss of quality of life in general.

1. **Why is the UN’s goal of taking responsible action for biodiversity important, in your opinion?**

In my opinion,the UN’s goal of taking responsible action for biodiversity is of paramount importance as the current soaring rates of deforestation globally are alarmingly dangerous to nature.

Nature is under threat and stress, which means eventually our oxygen, weather patterns, crops, and food are also at stake.

Natural habitats have been destroyed and wildlife and nature are forced to squeeze into smaller areas.

Many are threatened with extinction, and many others are suffering from poor health.

This means the foundations of our economies,livelihoods,food security, health and quality of life are affected worldwide.

Recent human activities such as burning down trees or deforestation, has led to extra addition of carbondioxide, which in turn has led to increase in temperatures and therefore climate change.

 One third of carbon dioxide emissions are caused by deforestation, and carbon dioxide emissions increase temperature.

Climate change leads to emission of greenhouse gases which cause increased temperatures. Global warming has led to extreme temperatures, loss of biodiversity, spread of diseases, and compromise on health and quality of life.

**2. Explain biodiversity. Why is it beneficial?**

Biodiversity can help prevent pandemics by being hosts to parasites, preventing further infection to humans, especially via zoonotic parasites.

Healthy ecosystems help to minimize the risk of exposing ourselves to new zoonotic diseases.

Forests are the lungs of the planet. Trees help to regulate the climate at a global scale level. Investing in land restoration is therefore critical for improving livelihoods, reducing vulnerabilities, and also reducing risks for the economy.

Maintaining a healthy planet plays an important role in the emergence of zoonotic diseases (diseases that are transmissible between animals and humans).

 As human activities continue to impact the fragile ecosystems we survive in, it increases the contact between humans and wildlife, this enables pathogens from wildlife to spill over to humans and livestock, this in turn increases the risk of emergence and amplification of disease.

Therefore it is important that ecosystems especially in the wild are conserved in order to prevent and minimize the spread of zoonotic diseases.

**3. Explain desertification. What is its impact on the world?**

Desertificationisland degradation from fertile land to desert, caused by human activities, and affecting climate change as well.

It is the process by which natural or human causes reduce the biological productivity of drylands(arid and semi arid lands).

Declines in productivity can be due to climate change, deforestation, overgrazing, poverty, political instability, unsustainable irrigation practices, or combinations of these factors.

Recent research reports indicate that desertification is being carried out at a historically high rate.

Desertification has resulted in loss of grains, which is a food source. This could mean that desertification eventually leads to famine and loss of lives.

Globally, a large percentage of poor people are directly affected by land degradation, they lose their source of economy, their land, and their health. They lose their habitats and deteriorate as a result.

Desertification also leads to reductions in crops production and livestock productivity. It also results in disruptive ecological cascades, and can also increase chances of wildfire occurrence.

**4. What changes need to happen to achieve Responsible Action for Life on Land?**

In order to achieve responsible action for life on land we need to change our lifestyle habits. We can adopt alternative measures to sustain our quality of life and status quo.

We can resort to measures such as recycling, eating locally based diets that are sustainably resourced, and only consuming what we need to avoid wastage.

We can prevent wildlife disturbances by traveling responsibly and ethically and taking part in ecotourism opportunities as wildlife needs to be respected as well.

This results in healthy people as well- managed protected areas support healthy ecosystems.

Therefore it is crucial to secure the involvement of local communities in the development and management of these protected areas.

**5. Do you think it is possible to achieve Responsible Actions for Life on Land? Why or Why not?**

I think it is possible to achieve responsible actions for life on land, however with some reservations.

To begin with, this will take long to achieve as lots of destruction has already taken place and needs time for restoration.

Also, people require sensitization on the importance of taking care of their environment and the consequences of not doing so.

Second, the socio-political agendas at a global scale need to be revised and implemented to ensure the security of responsible actions for life on land. This requires dedicated leaders with a vision not limited to selfish desires.

Also, we need to look for enough alternatives and make sure large numbers of population implement these to maintain a balance.

Agricultural expansion mechanisms need to be reconsidered and made compliant to preserve biodiversity and nature.

Ecosystems also need to be equitably managed.

Despite these challenges, it is possible to achieve responsible action for life on land with collective efforts.

**CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, we can see that what the UN is doing in order to conserve the biodiversity of life and to protect environments from desertification is extremely crucial because our diversity is being threatened daily in the world.

It is high time that we all collectively change our selfish ways to ensure the safety of our planet and hence our own wellbeing.

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